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## 2012 APC Roster

- Montgomery County, MD APC
- South Carolina Region 7 APC
- Toledo-Lucas, OH APC
- Tarrant County, TX APC
- Mesa County, CO APC
- San Francisco, CA APC
- Multnomah County, OR APC
- Seattle-King County, WA APC

Find all of the APC sites [here](#)

# Montgomery APC E-Update

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## Project Year 2012 Begins!

### Hitting the ground running!

Montgomery APC is off and running this year. We have been working on the Quality Improvement (QI) Project that we introduced in our last E-Update. We would love to hear from you in providing feedback on the following tools:

- Plan to Be Safe: Training Modules for Emergency Operations of Dispensing and Vaccinations-A Guide for Public Health Program Planners
- Emergency Response



### Planning for Child Care Providers

- Emergency Checklist for Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities and Group Homes
- Clinic Planning Model Generator

All of the tools are available to download FREE here.

### Mark Your Calendars!

Montgomery APC will be attending and presenting at the 2011 Public Health Preparedness Summit in Anaheim, CA on February 20-24. If you are attending, please stop by the presentation or the APC

### Booth!

We will also be presenting a Webinar on March 21, 2012 from 12-1 EST on PHEP capability Community Preparedness and how our tools align with the capability.

Stay tuned for more details!



## APC Tool May Help Improve TAR Scores

"A lot of LHDs know about partnering with police. But sometimes we don't know how to begin or what 'language' to use when speaking with them," says Rachel Abbey, Manager, Montgomery County, Maryland, APC. "South Carolina APC developed a tool that helps bring police and public health to the

emergency planning table with shared language."

*On the Safe Side* is an interactive CD-ROM that contains a rich assortment of templates, maps and diagrams, and assessments designed to help local law enforcement officials and emergency planners complete the plans required

by the annual TAR (Technical Assistance Review) for all health departments receiving Federal funding under the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI).

CRI is a program of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designed to enhance

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## APC Tool May Help Improve TAR Scores

preparedness in the nation's largest cities and metropolitan areas. Each jurisdiction receiving CRI funds must develop multiple plans to receive, distribute, and dispense medical assets received from CDC's [Strategic National Stockpile](#) (SNS). The annual TAR can determine the level of funding in future years.

With so much riding on a good TAR score, *On the Safe Side* was a welcome addition to the Montgomery County, Maryland's CRI plans.

Lieutenant Philip Raum with the Montgomery County Department of Police, found "On the Safe Side" to be an "excellent tool." "We started developing our plans before we knew about the tool," he said. But when Abbey, the local APC Manager, introduced him to the tool, it made his planning process easier.

"I liked it right off the bat," he said. "It was very self explanatory. South Carolina helped us fill in parts of the plan we hadn't even thought about," said Raum.

"It's a simple tool," said Raum, "that accomplishes a lot. For a majority of the questions (contained in the Point of Dispensing Site Security and Traffic Management Assessment), you just check yes or no," he said. Other questions have fill-in-the blank answers. With this assessment, Raum said he could complete a crisis plan for each dispensing site and send it out electronically to his officers.

Raymond Barteet, Regional Preparedness Director with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control - Region 7, was one of the creative minds behind *On the Safe Side*. He and Dana Millet, RN, Director of Clinical Operations, have been working on the Point of Dispensing Site Security and Traffic Management Assessment for about a

year and are still tweaking it. "The overall tool and the assessment just kind of grew from a local need, but it could help other jurisdictions," Barteet said recently.

Barteet and his colleagues became frustrated when they were searching for guidance on how to develop a comprehensive site security and traffic management plan for a Point of Dispensing (POD). All they could find were basic facility checklists, such as those used to review warehouse security.

So, Barteet and Millet went about combining thoughts to develop a more comprehensive assessment. "The Point of Dispensing Site Security and Traffic Management Assessment in *On the Safe Side* combines pieces of the various guidance concerning SNS security and traffic management operations, some basic checklists from other areas, plus some information that we added locally," Millet said.

"We also included easy to navigate visual tools that allow the end user to create maps. These maps provide a visual element that supports the written plan. They can show you exactly where to place a security officer at a dispensing site," said Barteet. "We've had very positive feedback on our mapping piece."

When a representative from CDC came to DHEC Region 7 for a site review, the team showed him their plan. The rep was very impressed. "He liked the visual tools and that all the information was in once place. He said it would be easily usable by any member of the public health or law enforcement community."

*On the Safe Side*, now available through the APC website, [apc.naccho.org](http://apc.naccho.org), contains four parts. The first is a law enforcement and health care workshop.

This section includes a sample agenda, sample topics, evaluation form, user guide, and other materials that could assist in designing and hosting a workshop. Its purpose is to engage law enforcement and healthcare facilities to plan for a public health emergency.

The second is the POD piece that includes the site security and traffic management assessment, plus the site diagrams. The assessment also has its own user guide that provides useful tidbits on how to plan and further define a POD, including areas such as how many restrooms are needed per population. The user guide also provides instructions on how to insert maps, floor plans, or other images (i.e. Google Earth shots) into the site diagram section. "Before, it would take us about 10 -12 hours to do a POD assessment," says Millet. "With this assessment, you can do an entire plan start to finish in about five hours."

A third piece of the tool is a hospital security section that functions much like the POD section. This section contains fill-in-the-blank assessments and also incorporates the use of site diagrams. The final section of the tool is a security-based tabletop exercise. This exercise is designed to test security and traffic management plans for PODs and for hospitals during surge situations.

"We identified a need," says Barteet. "We needed to get law enforcement involved in the planning process, so we created this tool. Now, if there were an event, no matter what it is, there is a plan for communication, a plan for security, a plan for everything you'd need," he says. "We just wanted to make sure we're all singing from the same sheet of music."

Lt. Raum and his colleagues in Maryland would certainly agree.